

Clean Version of Amended Claims

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b2  
1. A method for remotely metering usage of a utility at a consumer site and providing  
metering and billing data, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving metering data from a utility meter, wherein said metering data is  
electronically transmitted from said utility meter;  
calculating billing data using said metering data;  
storing said metering data and said billing data electronically; and  
reporting said metering data and said billing data electronically.

7. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said calculating step calculates said  
billing data using generation, transmission and distribution costs of said utility.

10. A method for remotely metering usage of a utility at a consumer site and providing  
metering and billing data, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving utility usage information remotely from a utility meter;  
calculating an electricity bill based on said usage information;  
generating reports containing said usage information and a utility bill, wherein  
said reports and said bill are electronically accessible.

14. The method in accordance with claim 10 wherein said receiving step receives said  
usage information from said utility meter by polling said utility meter using an electronic  
communication medium, wherein said utility meter is configured with a modem to connect to  
said communication medium.

1 17. A system for remotely metering usage of a utility at a consumer site and for providing  
2 consumers with metering information, billing information, and electronic payment options,  
3 the system comprising:

4 a utility meter for obtaining usage data on the amount of said utility delivered to said  
5 customer site and transmitting said usage data;

6 receiving means for receiving said usage data transmitted by said utility  
7 meter;

8 calculating means for calculating a utility bill for the amount of utility used  
9 based on usage data;

10 a computer database for storing said usage data and said utility bill;

11 data retrieval means for retrieving said usage data and said utility bill stored  
12 on said computer database; and

13 user interface means for presenting said usage data and said utility bill to  
14 customers.

18. The system in accordance with claim 17 wherein said utility meter is configured with  
a modem for transmitting said data on an electronic data line.

19. The system in accordance with claim 17 wherein said user interface means further  
comprises a web site on the Internet for interactively providing said usage data and said  
utility bill to consume